

JUL 14 2006

Serial No.: 09/707280
Attorney Docket No: 120-202

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/707280
	Filing Date	Nov. 6, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Stephen S. Jackson
	Art Unit	2158
	Examiner Name	Lazaro
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	2204/A89 120-202

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	McGuinness & Manares LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	David Dagg		
Date	July 14, 2006	Reg. No.	37,809

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/07280
	Filing Date	Nov. 6, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Stephen S. Jackson
	Art Unit	2155
	Examiner Name	Lazaro
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Printed name	David Dagg		
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Reply Brief
Attorney Docket No. 120-202
Nortel Ref. 137118A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appellant(s):	Jackson	Examiner:	Lazaro
Serial No. :	09/707,280	Group Art No. :	2155
Filed :	November 6, 2000		
Atty Docket :	120-202		
Title :	System, Device and Method for Providing Personalized Services in a Communication System		

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APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.41

This Appellant's Reply Brief is hereby submitted in response to the Examiner's Answer of May 16, 2006.

Reply Brief
Attorney Docket No. 120-202
Nortel Ref. 13711BA

I. Status of the Claims

This is an appeal brief from a decision by the Primary Examiner dated August 23, 2005, finally rejecting the claims 1-68 and 71-75 currently pending in the present application. No claims have been allowed. The rejections of claims 1-68 and 71-75 are the subject of this appeal.

A notice of Appeal was filed on November 23, 2005.

An Examiner's Answer was mailed May 16, 2006.

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II. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

- A. Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-24, 26-35, 37-40, 42-48, 50-59, 61-64, and 66-75 stand rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by U.S. Patent 6,331,972 to Harris et al. ("Harris et al.").
- B. Dependent claims 6, 25 and 49 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Harris et al. and U.S. patent number 6,104,913 of McAllister ("McAllister").
- C. Dependent claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Harris et al. and U.S. patent number 5,493,692 of Theimer et al. ("Theimer et al.").

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III. Argument

A. Harris et al. does not disclose all the features of the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. Harris et al. accordingly does not anticipate the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71 under 35 U.S.C. 102. The dependent claims 2-5, 7-16, 18-20, 22-24, 26-35, 37-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-59, 61-64, and 66-69, and 72-75 are patentable over Harris et al. for at least the same reasons.

With regard to 35 U.S.C. 102, "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration." *W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 469 U.S. 851 (1984). Appellants have asserted that the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-24, 26-35, 37-40, 42-48, 50-59, 61-64, and 66-75 under 35 U.S.C. 102 fails to meet this requirement, since Harris et al. does not include the claimed limitation of detecting physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71.

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Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-24, 26-35, 37-40, 42-48, 50-59, 61-64, and 66-75:

As recognized by the Examiner in the Examiner's Answer, the peer electronic devices in the communication network of Harris et al. are not users. However, the Examiner still asserts in the Reply Brief that the determination of *device proximity* in Harris et al. still teaches the determination of *user proximity based on at least one physical attribute of a user* of the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. The Examiner's arguments in the Examiner's Answer amount to the position that *inferring* the proximity of a user to a peer device of Harris et al., based on the proximity of another peer device containing the user's personalization data, is the same as the determination of *user proximity based on at least one physical attribute of a user* in the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. Appellants disagree for the reasons set forth below.

With regard to the personalization data stored in a peer device, the Examiner cites the section of Harris et al. beginning at line 8 of column 8, which states as follows:

... Memory 42 additionally stores personalization data 52 and application data 54. Personalization data 52 characterize a user or owner of peer 20 and may change from user to user or from time to time. ID codes, passwords and PINs are examples of personalization data as are radio or TV channel presets, language preferences and speed dial telephone numbers.

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The above teaches the possibility that personalization data in a Harris et al. peer device "may change from user to user or from time to time". No hint or suggestion is given that personalization data in a peer device might be changed in response to a determination of *user proximity based on at least one physical attribute of a user*, as in the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. As a result, and as further explained below, the changing of personalization data in a peer device in Harris et al. may occur at times independent from when a user is proximate to the peer device. Furthermore, a user may change his or her proximity to a Harris et al. peer device independently from the changing of the personalization data in that device. The proximity of a peer device in Harris et al. is therefore not equivalent to the proximity of a user, as in the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71.

Appellants also note that nothing in the personalization data described in Harris et al. consists of *a physical attribute of the user*. Instead, the personalization data of Harris et al. is better understood as personal configuration data for operating a peer device according to the preferences of an associated user. Accordingly, the act of detecting of personalization data for a given user in a Harris et al. peer device is non-analogous to the determination of *user proximity based on at least one physical attribute of a user*, as in the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71.

With regard to whether a user is near a peer device, the Examiner cites a section of Harris et al. describing a need for appliance personalization, beginning at line 7 of column 10, which states as follows:

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One exemplary need is that of appliance personalization. In the appliance personalization need example, a PDA might need to personalize nearby appliances. To satisfy this need, personalization data 52 (FIG. 2) should be programmed into certain nearby appliances without user intervention. As a result, the certain appliances will always be programmed with a particular user's personalization data whenever that user is near, without requiring action on the user's part, and regardless of prior persons who may have used the appliance.

The above section of Harris et al. teaches programming of personalization data into one peer device from another peer device, based on the *proximity of the two devices* ("the PDA might need to personalize nearby devices"). When such automatic programming of personalization data occurs in Harris et al., there is no determination of whether a user associated with that personalization data is proximate to either the device being programmed, or to the device doing the programming. Harris et al. fails to account for the possibility that a user might not be physically proximate to a given device when that device is nearby. The above text explicitly teaches that such programming is performed "without user intervention", thus emphasizing that only the proximity of devices, and not user proximity, is required for the personalization data to be programmed from one peer device to another in Harris et al.

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While Harris et al. attempts to provide a system in which "certain appliances will always be programmed with a particular user's personalization data whenever that user is near", the converse proposition is not provided for. Specifically, there is no capability for determining whether a particular user is actually nearby when an appliance in Harris et al. has that user's personalization data stored within it, or when the appliance is programmed with that user's personalization data. The personalization data for a user will be programmed into a Harris et al. peer device regardless of whether that user caused that device to be proximate to another peer device. Similarly, the personalization data for a given user remains stored in that peer device of Harris et al. even when the corresponding user is not nearby. Again, the presence or proximity of a user is seen to not correspond to the presence or proximity of an associated peer device in the Harris et al. system.

While a user's presence is apparently inferred with respect to the programming of personalization data between peer devices of Harris et al., such an inference is effective only in the case where the user happens to actually be near an associated peer device. The inference of user proximity based on device proximity is not checked or verified by any determination of user proximity based on a physical attribute of a user in Harris et al., either by a peer device programming another peer device with personalization data, or by a peer device being programmed with the personalization data.

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For these reasons, Appellants assert Harris et al. describes operations performed in response to device proximity, and that the inference of user proximity based on detection of a proximate device is far different from the determination of *user proximity based on at least one physical attribute of a user*, as in the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71.

The Examiner also cites a section of Harris et al. that describes the possibility of storing and transmitting data regarding a user's location or presence. Lines 4-8 of Harris et al. state as follows:

Capability for storing and broadcasting an identifier or indicator of the person's presence or location relative to the data transactions, e.g., capability for storing and broadcasting information indicating that the owner of this device is currently present with the device.

While the above describes actions ("storing", "broadcasting") that may be performed to keep or communicate an indication that a user's presence has been determined, nothing is taught in the above text with regard to how the user's presence was in fact determined. Accordingly, when viewed as a part of the overall teaching of Harris et al., the above section is seen as describing steps performed on or using information or data regarding user presence, where the user presence itself was previously inferred based on device proximity.

With regard to the Examiner's statement in the Examiner's Answer that "there is no explanation of why the basis of the presence or absence of the signal on the link does not correspond to the subject matter of "a determination based on a physical attribute of a user"", Appellants note that the relevant determination is

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of the presence of a user, as set forth in the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. The presence of the signal on the link in Harris et al. indicates the proximity of a device, such as one of the devices shown in Figs. 26-29 of Harris et al., while the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71 involve the determining the presence of a user.

For the above reasons and those set forth in Appellants Appeal Brief, Appellants maintain that Harris et al. fails to disclosed or suggest *detecting the physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system*, as in the present independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71. As claims 2-5, 7-16, 18-20, 22-24, 26-35, 37-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-59, 61-64, 66-68 and 72-75 each depend from the independent claims 1, 21, 45 and 71, they are patentable over Harris et al. for at least the same reasons. Claims 69 and 70 have been cancelled.

B. The Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in the rejection of dependent claims 6, 25 and 49 using the combination of Harris et al. and U.S. patent number 6,104,913 of McAllister ("McAllister").

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). "All words in a claim must be considered in

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judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.” *In re Wilson*, 424

F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970). Appellants maintain that the combination of Harris et al. with McAllister fails to disclose or suggest the claimed limitation of detecting physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 6, 25 and 49 depend. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Accordingly, based on the nonobviousness of claims 1, 21, and 45 over the combination of Harris et al. and McAllister, Appellants assert that the claims 6, 25 and 49 are also nonobvious over the combination of Harris et al. and McAllister.

Claims 6, 25 and 49:

As set forth in Appellants' Appeal Brief and further set forth above with regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102, Harris et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitation of detecting physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 6, 25 and 49 depend. McAllister also fails to disclose or suggest any such feature or

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limitation, and the combination of McAllister with Harris et al., therefore fails to overcome the inadequacies of Harris et al. described at length above.

The Examiner has cited sections of McAllister describing communication of data using galvanic properties of the skin (Abstract), speaker identification using biometric characteristics such as finger or hand prints (column 8 line 62 through column 9 line 3), and authentication (columns 5 and 6), but, like Harris et al., these sections also include no suggestion of detecting the physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 6, 25 and 49 depend.

For at least these reasons, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103 with regard to claims 6, 25 and 49, over the combination Harris et al. and McAllister.

C. The Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in the rejection of dependent claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 using the combination of Harris et al. and U.S. patent number 5,493,692 of Theimer et al. ("Theimer et al.").

As set forth in Appellants' Appeal Brief and further set forth above, Appellants assert that the combination of Harris et al. with Theimer et al. fails to disclose or suggest the claimed limitation of detecting physical presence of a user,

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wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 depend. Accordingly, based on the nonobviousness of claims 1, 21, and 45 over the combination of Harris et al. and Theimer et al., Appellants assert that the claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 are also nonobvious over the combination of Harris et al. and Theimer et al.

Claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65:

As set forth in Appellants' Appeal Brief and above with regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102, Harris et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitation of detecting physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 depend. Theimer et al. also fails to disclose or suggest any such feature or limitation, and the combination of Theimer et al. with Harris et al. therefore fails to overcome the inadequacies of Harris et al. described at length above.

The Examiner has cited sections of Theimer et al. describing the desirability of reminders (column 3, lines 22-28), a user agent for processing events and a user calendar information including reminder notes (column 10, lines 28-38), and conditional reminder messages sent based on time and proximity between a first user and specified other users (column 24, lines 8-31), but, like

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Harris et al., these sections also include no suggestion of detecting the physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system, as in each of the independent claims 1, 21, 45, from which claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65 depend.

For at least these reasons, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103 with regard to claims 17, 36, 41, 60 and 65, over the combination Theimer et al. and Harris et al.

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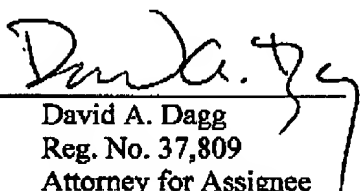
IV. Conclusion

Appellants submit therefore that the rejections of the present claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, based on Harris et al., the combination of Harris et al. and McAllister, and the combination of Harris et al. and Theimer et al., are improper for at least the reasons set forth above. Appellants accordingly request that the rejections be withdrawn and the case put forward for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A - Claims

1. (previously presented) A method for providing a personalized service in a communication system, the method comprising:

detecting physical presence of a user, wherein the detecting includes a determination, based on at least one physical attribute of the user, that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system; and

providing the personalized service to the user based upon the physical presence of the user.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the physical presence of the user comprises:

using a detector to detect the physical presence of the user.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the physical presence of the user comprises:

using a detector in combination with an appliance gateway to detect the physical presence of the user.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the personalized service to the user based upon the physical presence of the user comprises:

using an appliance gateway to provide the personalized service to the user based upon the physical presence of the user.

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5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting physical presence of the user comprises:

identifying the user.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying the user comprises:
identifying the user based upon biometric information.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein providing the personalized service to the user based upon the physical presence of the user comprises:
providing the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein providing the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user comprises:
obtaining user-specific information based upon the identity of the user; and
providing the personalized service to the user based upon the user-specific information.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the user-specific information comprises at least one of:

per-user rules;
user-defined rules;
user preferences; and

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user applications.

10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein obtaining user-specific information based upon the identity of the user comprises at least one of:

retrieving the user-specific information from a local storage of an appliance gateway;

retrieving the user-specific information from the device;

retrieving the user-specific information from another device; and retrieving the user-specific information from a remote storage over a communication network.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein obtaining user-specific information based upon the identity of the user comprises:

logically inferring some user-specific information from other user-specific information.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein providing the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user comprises at least one of:

obtaining information for the user;

anticipating needs of the user and providing said needs;

updating user preference information;

simplifying device control for the user;

handling a user schedule; and

providing reminders to the user.

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13. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein providing the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user comprises:

establishing a personal area network for the user based upon the identity of the user; and

providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

providing information to the user within the personal area network.

15. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

monitoring a supported device within the personal area network.

16. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

monitoring the user within the personal area network.

17. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

maintaining a schedule for the user; and

providing a reminder to the user within the personal area network.

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18. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

retrieving information for the user over a communication network.

19. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network comprises:

determining a user preference for a supported device.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein providing the personalized service to the user within the personal area network further comprises:

updating user preference information to include the user preference for the supported device.

21. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:

user detection logic operably coupled to detect physical presence of a user, wherein the user detection logic detects that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the communication system based on detection of at least one physical attribute of the user; and

personal agent logic responsive to the user detection logic and operably coupled to provide personalized services to the user based upon the physical presence of the user.

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22. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the user detection logic comprises a detector for detecting the physical presence of the user.

23. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the user detection logic is coupled to a detector for detecting the physical presence of the user.

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the user detection logic is operably coupled to identify the user.

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the user detection logic is operably coupled to identify the user based upon
biometric information.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to provide the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to obtain user-specific information based upon the identity of the user and provide the personalized service to the user based upon the user-specific information.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the user-specific information comprises at least one of:

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per-user rules;
user-defined rules;
user preferences; and
user applications.

29. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to retrieve the user-specific information from at least one of:

a local storage;
a supported device; and
a remote storage over a communication network.

30. (original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to logically infer some user-specific information from other user-specific information.

31. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to obtain information for the user.

32. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to anticipate needs of the user.

33. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to update user preference information.

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34. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to simplify device control for the user.

35. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to handle a user schedule.

36. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to provide reminders to the user.

37. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to establish a personal area network for the user based upon the identity of the user and provide the personalized service to the user within the personal area network.

38. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to provide information to the user within the personal area network.

39. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to monitor a supported device within the personal area network.

40. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to monitor the user within the personal area network.

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41. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to maintain a schedule for the user and provide a reminder to the user within the personal area network.

42. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to retrieve information for the user over a communication network.

43. (original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to determine a user preference for a supported device.

44. (original) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the personal agent logic is operably coupled to update user preference information to include the user preference for the supported device.

45. (previously presented) A computer program product including a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium having a computer program stored thereon for controlling a computer system, the computer program comprising:

user detection logic programmed to detect physical presence of a user, wherein the user detection logic detects that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the computer system based on detection of at least one physical attribute of the user;
and

personal agent logic responsive to the user detection logic and programmed to provide personalized services to the user based upon the physical presence of the user.

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46. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 45, wherein the user detection logic comprises a detector for detecting the physical presence of the user.

47. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 45, wherein the user detection logic is coupled to a detector for detecting the physical presence of the user.

48. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 45, wherein the user detection logic is programmed to identify the user.

49. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the user detection logic is programmed to identify the user based upon
biometric information.

50. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to provide the personalized service to the user based upon the identity of the user.

51. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to obtain user-specific information based upon the identity of the user and provide the personalized service to the user based upon the user-specific information.

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52. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 51, wherein the user-specific information comprises at least one of:

- per-user rules;
- user-defined rules;
- user preferences; and
- user applications.

53. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 51, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to retrieve the user-specific information from at least one of:

- a local storage;
- a supported device; and
- a remote storage over a communication network.

54. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 51, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to logically infer some user-specific information from other user-specific information.

55. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to obtain information for the user.

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56. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50,, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to anticipate needs of the user and provide said needs.

57. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to update user preference information.

58. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to simplify device control for the user.

59. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to handle a user schedule.

60. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to provide reminders to the user.

61. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to establish a personal area network for the user based upon the identity of the user and provide the personalized service to the user within the personal area network.

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62. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to provide information to the user within the personal area network.

63. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to monitor a supported device within the personal area network.

64. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to monitor the user within the personal area network.

65. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to maintain a schedule for the user and provide a reminder to the user within the personal area network.

66. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to retrieve information for the user over a communication network.

67. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to determine a user preference for a supported device.

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68. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 67, wherein the personal agent logic is programmed to update user preference information to include the user preference for the supported device.

69. (cancelled)

70. (cancelled)

71. (previously presented) A system for providing personalized services, the system comprising a gateway operably coupled to detect physical presence of a user and provide personalized services to the user based upon the physical presence of the user, wherein the gateway detects that the user is currently in close physical proximity to the gateway based on detection of at least one physical attribute of the user.

72. (original) The system of claim 71, further comprising a physical presence detector in communication with the gateway for providing physical presence information to the gateway.

73. (original) The system of claim 71, wherein the gateway is operably coupled to determine an identity of the user based upon the physical presence of the user and provide the personalized services to the user based upon the identity of the user.

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74. (original) The system of claim 71, wherein the gateway is operably coupled to obtain user-specific information and provide the personalized services to the user based upon the user-specific information.

75. (original) The system of claim 74, wherein the gateway is operably coupled to obtain the user-specific information from at least one of:

- a local storage of the computer system;
- a supported device of the computer system; and
- a remote storage over a communication network.

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Appendix B - Evidence Submitted

None.

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Appendix C - Related Proceedings

None.